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All day long shells have come screaming
over the house, we wonder when one
will land in our house. The Germans
are fond of landing as many as six in
as many seconds in one place. It
is quite interesting to watch them
at a place. One second the walls
are standing, there is a scream, a crash
& a cloud of smoke & dust, when this has
cleared away, you see a huge part is
missing. Life in the trenches is very mon-
otonous. We are now busy digging in
the day (the Germans do nothing but
snipe us in the day) & at night every
man is ordered to dig in his class

to advance. We work in two hour
reliefs, half on, half off. I take turn with
my platoon sergt. during the relief I have
to patrol up and down my portion of
the trench seeing that every man on, is
awake and alert. I have to keep standing
or walking to keep myself awake. if
I sit down I should immediately fall
asleep. Then when my two hours are
up, & I try to sleep on the bottom of
the trench, I sleep for half an hour
then wake up nearly frozen, too cold
to sleep. You can imagine how